



# THE COLONNADE

February 21, 2014

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Volume 90, No. 19

Single copies free

## Student Code of Conduct being reviewed

*Fifteen years since Student  
Code was last reviewed*

KELLY MAINOR  
SENIOR REPORTER

After 15 years since its last revision, conversation has begun to revise the Student Code of Conduct (SCC) and the Honor Code for Georgia College. The current Code of Conduct was created during the 1998-99 school year by a committee of faculty members and students.

According to Katie Adcock, senior accounting major and attorney general of SGA, the current SCC does not lay out all of the rules for students to understand what is expected of them without any confusion.

"We don't want the Code of Conduct to be unclear in any way for students," Adcock said.

The SCC review board is comprised of 12 senators and justices who are discussing the change. Justices are on the review board to serve as the voice of the Student Judicial Board. The senators represent the voice of the student body. This board was designed to represent a balanced opinion and make an objective Code of Conduct and Honor Code.

**"It is just outdated and lacks sensitivity towards relevant issues for the student body."**

**Scott York,  
junior criminal justice major  
and SGA justice**

This is a slow start to a long process, but Adcock is hopeful they will find any existing loopholes with the review.

The Current Code of Conduct contains six codes by which the Student Judicial Review Board can hold students accountable. Each code contains umbrella rules, meaning students can receive the same consequences for an array of different offenses.

The SCC committee wants to focus on revising each of the six codes, specifically number four. According to the Code of Conduct, code four applies to any inappropriate conduct of a student. This rule is ambiguous and does not allow a student to understand what rule he or she violated.

"While this is good for clerical reasons, it does not give students a defense against charges that are brought against them," Adcock said.

According to Scott York, junior criminal justice major and justice, the review of both the Honor Code and the SCC is intended to help the student body, not hurt them. For example, under the current SCC students are tried for alcohol and drug-related incidents under the same rule.

"It is just outdated and lacks sensitivity towards relevant issues for the student body," York said.

The review board is breaking down each section of the SCC and Honor Code this semester. An update or a new plan of action can be expected by the end of the semester.

The current Code of Conduct and Honor Code can be found here: <http://www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/handbook/code.htm>

**What do you think should be revised within the Student Code of Conduct?**

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or visit us on our website**

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BARRETT ROELL	353
KEAON MOON	323
PAUL MURRAY	276
BLAKE MAYO	246
HANSON POWELL	241
Not Voting	149
DYLAN SMITH	99
KYLE OLSON	90
RODREQUEZ BURNETT	84
	38
	24
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## FOR MR. & MS. GEORGIA COLLEGE

SAMMI SHAPIRO	386
LAUREN MATHEWS	353
MADDY KEARNS	323
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LAUREN LEE	246
HANNAH BAKER	241
EVEA KALDAS	149
CAILEN MERRITT	99
NOT VOTING	90
ANIKA BAILEY	84
SPENCER PAPALO	38
ANNA LOPEZ	24

## PRESIDENT

JUAWN JACKSON	104
SEAN ESPINOSA	88
KATIE ADCOCK	658
HOLLY NIX	637
NOT VOTING	409
	198
	19
	18
	17
	16
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	5
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## VICE PRESIDENT

GINA WEBBER	1014
BRITTAN EDWARDS	658
NOT VOTING	637
	409
	198
	19
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## SECRETARY

LAURA AHRENS	1810
NOT VOTING	637
	409
	198
	19
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## TREASURER

DAVID GASTLEY	889
JUSTIN MUNDY	868
NOT VOTING	552
	409
	198
	19
	18
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	13
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## The story behind the veil at the Old Governor's Mansion



Guests touring the house get a unique view into the lives of past residents, including family servants.

ANDIE LEEDS / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER  
precipitation of its history. Imagining the intense hustle-and-bustle that must have accompanied everyday work, I saw the mansion for what it was: a place of work.

The story of the steward further helps one to see this comparison. The steward was a slave who performed the role of an overseer on a plantation. He would be responsible only to the Governor and the First Lady, would have his own bedroom on the bottom floor and be trusted to guard the pantry, linen and food supplies.

There is a large degree of primary source evidence profiling the life of Jim, who was steward of the mansion during the term of Joseph E. Brown. Jim was known to be the "governor's man" throughout Milledgeville and was dedicated to his duty – there is even the tale that when Jim died in bed at the mansion, the keys to the house had to literally be pried from his hands.

The greatest degree of information about the OGM's slaves comes from Governor Joseph E. Brown's (1861-65) administration.

Mrs. Brown had a remarkably close relationship with a free black servant by the name of Emma, who served as their children's nursemaid. Mrs. Brown took Emma as a companion to health spas in New York, and, incredibly, arranged for her wedding to take place in the state dining room of the mansion after the Civil War.

All of these small events and experiences served to see into the lives of people who once trod on the same ground on which we now stand. I strongly recommend for everyone to go take this tour at the Old Governor's Mansion and learn an amazing piece of history.

Tours are by appointment and admission is free for all GC faculty, staff and students.

Call 478-445-4545 to make an appointment.

## Blood Drive runs dry

ANTHONY TANNER  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Dr. John Sallstrom Blood Drive has frequently proven itself to be a popular event on campus, and one that boasts a reputable cause. However, this year's blood drive was met with technical difficulties and unfavorable weather, both of which resulted in a lower donation count than hoped for.

The event scheduled for Feb. 12 from noon until 6 p.m. was canceled due to unfavorable travel conditions. These factors also led to the closing of the University on Feb. 12 for the second snow day of the semester.

Although Wednesday's events were canceled, some students braved the cold weather to donate their blood on Tuesday.

Donors were faced with a short wait as they arrived at the event. First-time donor Kelly Spevacek, freshman environmental science major, was among the few who came out.

"The event motivates people to give back to their community and provides a prolific service opportunity to other humans in need," said Spevacek, "and the weather forecast had no effect on my decision to support the Blood Drive."

Georgia College's blood drive is the third largest in Georgia behind the Atlanta Braves and Valdosta State University.

"The students who supported this event on Tuesday did an awesome job in their effort to help the event meet its goal," said Barrett Roell, senior marketing and management major.

Despite the weather conditions and technical difficulties volunteers were able to raise 114 donations towards the event's primary goal of 405 donations during the Feb. 11 drive.

"The event was a good experience and offered an opportunity to help save lives around the world," said Rachel Powell, a GC graduate who majored in business. "I am really looking forward to supporting the event [again] during the summer semesters."

Milledgeville's diverse population offers the American Red Cross and GC's GIVE Center a great opportunity to raise donations that can help people here in the local community and around the world.

The next blood drive scheduled for GC will be held during the summer terms.

"Students should come prepared with their driver's license, eat a healthy breakfast and drink plenty of water before giving their donations," said Roell.

For more information on the event or to schedule an appointment, call 770-757-8448 or go online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) with sponsor code GC.

## NEWS FLASH

### Just dance!

The Georgia College Dance Marathon will take place Saturday from noon until midnight. Grab your dancing shoes and get ready to dance your heart out. Proceeds will benefit The Children's Hospital at The Medical Center of Central Georgia.

**QUOTABLE**

"We snatch that cheese right off the trap."

- A Rufies' sideline chant

See Sports on page 10

## INSIDE

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## NUMBER CRUNCH

3.5

The number of days Georgia College has closed due to inclement weather this semester

# GC students giving back to the community

KELLY MAINOR  
SENIOR REPORTER

The first Student Engagement and Philanthropy Day is set for Feb. 27 on Georgia College's campus. As a member of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, GC is joining the effort to support this nationwide philanthropic initiative.

The idea behind this event is to designate one day for global impact. There are several institutions nationwide that get involved.

The mission statement of CASE is to foster and enhance student involvement in all areas of advancement. With that goal in mind, GC University Advancement hopes to raise awareness about charitable giving. This event is separate from the GIVE Center which focuses mainly on volunteering.

According to Kate Pope from University Advancement, the goal for GC Student Philanthropy Day is twofold.

"We want students to be aware of the importance of charitable giving, but we are also raising money for the Helping Hands Hardship Fund this year," said Pope.

There is not a definitive monetary goal for this year's event on campus. Any donation contributed will be factored into the success of the first-time event on GC's campus.

The Helping Hands Hardship Fund, formerly known as the Student Emergency Fund, is established to assist students who are in dire need of financial support. Because most students are unaware that this fund even exists, it was selected for the philanthropy day this year to shed light on how to give back. Should a staff or faculty member identify a need, they can contact the financial aid office.

The local Kroger has also partnered with this philanthropic effort. Individuals can now use a portion of his or her Kroger plus points and contribute them to the Helping Hands Hardship Fund by simply registering online on the Kroger website.

On Feb. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. students can participate in this event by stopping by the fountain outside of A&S and leaving their handprints on a sheet-sign to support the Helping Hands Hardship Fund.

A committee comprised of students and University Advancement staff have worked diligently to oversee the details of this event.

"It's been great collaborating with my peers for such an important cause. I'm excited about raising awareness," Ashley Nowak, sophomore business major and student committee member, said.



BRICE SCOTT  
COLUMNIST

The Winter Olympics in Sochi come to a close on Feb. 23, but the closing ceremonies will mark the beginning of a bigger game as Russia's leaders attempt to turn the country's successes as Olympic host into larger political victories.

President Vladimir Putin has used the games as an opportunity to demonstrate to the world the powerful "new" Russia built during his leadership. The Games have succeeded domestically in building widespread national pride and public approval, but with the Russian economy slowing and foreign investment dropping, it remains to be seen whether the expense of the Games will end up paying off.

A former KGB officer turned politician, Putin has managed to maintain a significant amount of power in Russia since 1999. He was elected twice as Prime Minister and three times as President (a law barring presidents from more than four terms was amended to six in 2011 to allow for his third term). Under Putin's leadership the economically-ruined former Soviet nation has seen a major economic turnaround that bolstered the nation's place in global markets.

However, the financial boom of the past decade has fallen off, as commodity prices fall and foreign investment in the country dries up. Hosting the Olympics offers Russia the opportunity to show off its economic strength and impress potential investors coming in for the Games. At an unprecedented \$51 billion price tag, the Sochi Games are

estimated to be the most expensive Olympic Games in history, but the success or failure of the venture will resonate for many years and could undermine the vision of progress and success Putin has built his political reputation on.

**It will still take some time before it can be determined whether the Games were successful in rescuing the Russian economy, but the success or failure of the endeavor will have a significant impact on the political future of the region.**

A number of controversies tied to the Games have cropped up in the past week. Sochi is not a major city like Moscow or St. Petersburg; it is a seaside resort community popular during the Soviet era but now greatly aging (save for the brand new Olympic stadiums). Readers will no doubt have seen the pictures of the terrible state of maintenance posted by foreign athletes and journalists, and these images of decay could tarnish the image of a vibrant, productive Russia. In addition, the Games have drawn negative attention to Russia's controversial

laws persecuting homosexuals and limiting citizens' rights to freedom of speech.

This year the Sochi Games coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Russian genocide of the Adyge - the Muslim ethnic group native to the area around Sochi who were forced out by the Russian military in 1864. Adyge activist groups have even pointed to the new Olympic stadiums as being built on land where mass graves connected with the ethnic cleansing are located. Jihadist groups connected to the Adyge diaspora have been linked to several Russian suicide bombings in December 2013 and a number of threats were made directly against the Sochi Games. Putin's administration has pledged a significant amount of resources to secure the Games, but even a minor event in the closing days could raise major concerns about the safety of doing business in Russia.

So far, the 2014 Winter Olympics have been a success with no major security incidents or disruptions. It will still take some time before it can be determined whether the Games were successful in rescuing the Russian economy, but the success or failure of the endeavor will have a significant impact on the political future of the region. President Putin in particular has put his political career on the line, and he may find obtaining a fourth presidential term a difficult prospect if the massive expenditures in Sochi do not lead to a reciprocation. At the moment, he enjoys a tidal wave of public support from the patriotic pride associated with hosting the Games, but that can soon fade if the Russian people wake up on Feb. 24 and realize that Putin's gamble has only made things worse.



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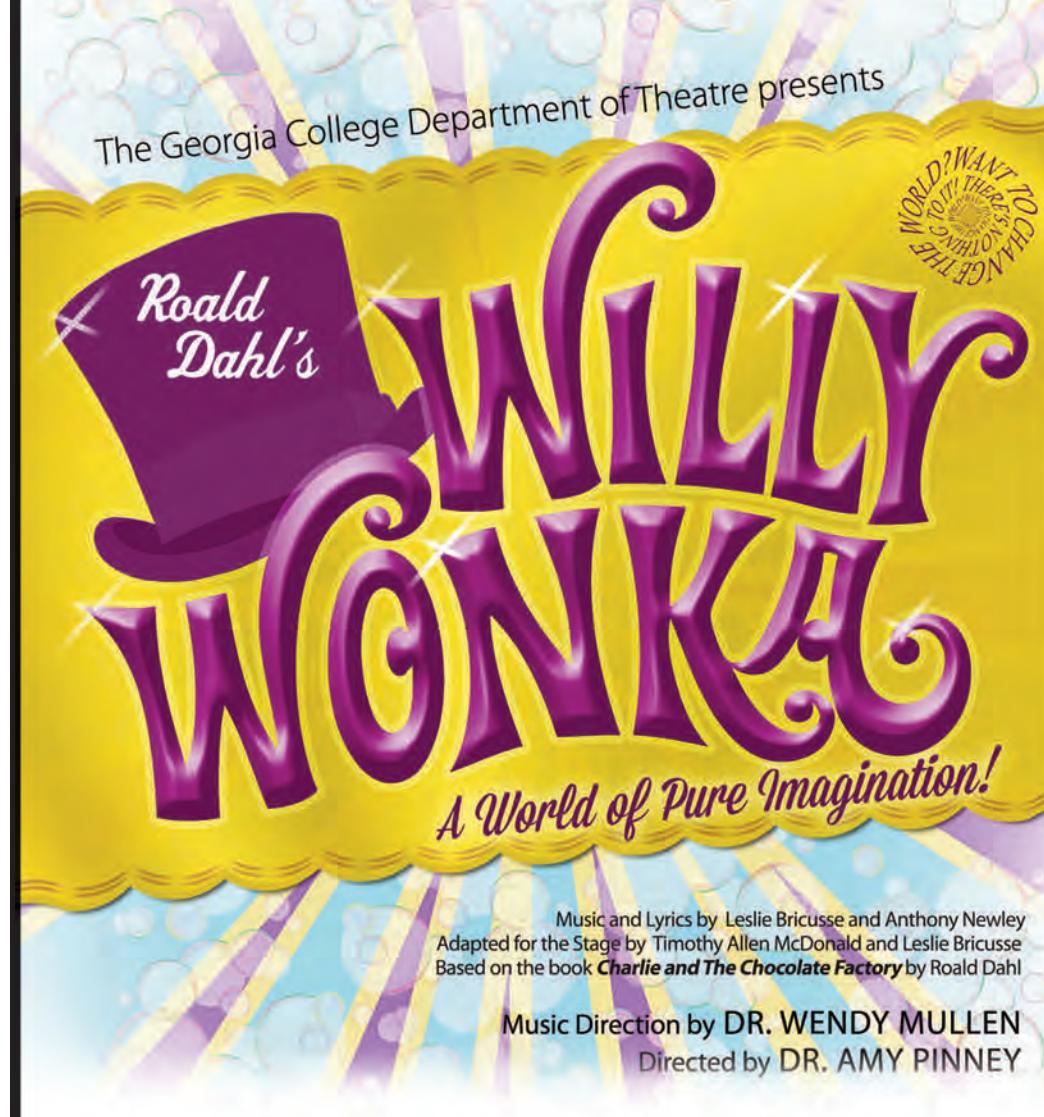
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# Misrepresentations of Australia figured out

Emily Buckingham debunks the fabrications led on by natives

EMILY BUCKINGHAM  
COLUMNIST

Have you ever heard of drop bears? Once I arrived in Australia, I was immediately alerted to the dangers of these fuzzy beasts. These opossum-sized creatures hide in trees and will drop down to attack you if you stand too close. They live in all parts of Australia and are highly aggressive. There have even been reports of drop bears biting off peoples' hands.

However there is no such thing as a drop bear. Thanks to my many years of watching Animal Planet, I knew the truth, but that didn't stop every Australian I've met from trying to convince me otherwise. It is incredible, really; they have made these fictional animals into a countrywide inside joke. Even my flight attendants warned me about these stealthy animals.

At first I was somewhat offended that everyone tried so hard to fool me, but then I realized that is just who Australians are. It doesn't matter where you're from: the States, Canada, Germany, Finland – they don't care. They just want to see how gullible you are. They are short shorts-wearing jesters, and the world is their court.

Drop bears weren't the only lie I was fed this week. I was also told that they ride kangaroos to school, vegemite is delicious and should be eaten in large quantities, and that their opossums are not only tame but love to be pet. Let me assure you that all of these could not be further from the truth. My favorite lie is that their bagged wine, also known as goon, is made from kangaroo bladder. This one was almost believable though due to the fact that thousands of kangaroos are killed each year in order to control their population. However they do not make bags of wine from their bladders.

Now not only have I found Australians to be tricksters, they also like their alcohol. If you think college kids in Athens know how to party, you've seen nothing. We may have thirsty Thursdays, but they have thirsty Tuesday through Saturday. Going to bed before 4 a.m. will get you mocked where I'm living. Each night seems to be a different pub, bar or club with its own theme and drinks.

There is never a dull night here.

I'm starting to think that the only reason they don't have liver damage is because alcohol is much more expensive here than back home. This is usually the reason everyone sticks to drinking large amounts of cheap beer and bagged wine.

Australia isn't without its beauty and class



WIKI COMMONS  
The ferocious drop bear in its natural habitat.

though. Each city has its own unique personality. Here in Canberra, everything is organized and clean. The circular city revolves around a man-made lake and incorporates water at every opportunity. Sydney, on the other hand, is the perfect mix of culture and innovation. It seamlessly brings together old and new. The soul of this harbor city revolves around the water. Small water taxis glide easily next to sightseeing boats and dominating cruise ships. The water and the land vibrate with diversity and flavor that is only emphasized by the world-famous landmarks. It combines everything that a large city should have: excellent transportation, a rich history, a variety of places to eat and lots to see and do.

Watching the sun set over the Opera House, setting both it and the sky ablaze in orange and pink, was one of the most memorable experiences of my life, and I've only been here a week.

**Have you visited Australia? Tell us about it @GCSUnade or vent to us on our website GCSUNADE.com**

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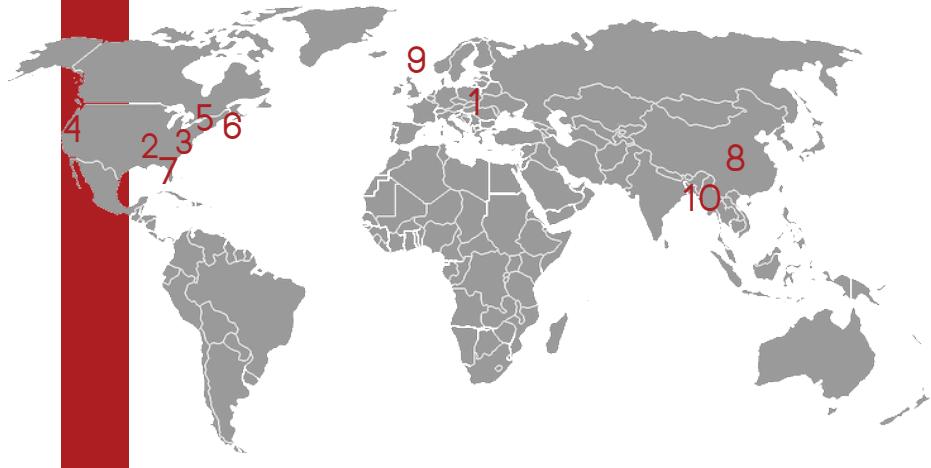
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## THE · SHORT · LIST

The top news stories from all over the world as collected, curated and composed by Sarah K. Wilson



1

**The violence continues.** Ukraine has experienced the most violence since the protests began in the past few days. A clash between police and protesters erupted on Tuesday in Kiev, throwing the city into chaos by the following morning. Molotov cocktails are the weapon of choice for protesters, while riot police struck back with water cannons. Authorities have claimed that at least 25 people have been killed and another 240 have been injured in the chaos. (USA Today)

2

**Volkswagen vs. the South.** The German auto maker is displeased with the southern U.S. after workers in its Chattanooga, Tenn., plant voted against being represented by the United Auto Workers union, which represents the company across the world. VW's labor representative has since threatened to cease funding to the region and has placed the blame on none other than Southern Republicans. "The conservatives stirred up massive, anti-union sentiments," said Bernd Osterloh, head of VW's work council. "Another VW factory in the United States ... does not necessarily have to be assigned to the South again." (Reuters)

3

**Minimum wage, maximum damage.** On Tuesday, the Congressional Budget Office said that the proposed minimum wage hike, which would raise the wage to \$10.10 an hour by 2016, would potentially destroy 500,000 jobs. On the flip side, the wage hike could also move 900,000 people above the poverty line. Decisions, decisions. (Washington Post)

4

**Don't eat the Hot Pocket!** But you probably already knew you shouldn't. Hot Pockets steak and cheese and croissant crust Philly steak and cheese are being pulled from grocery store shelves after it was revealed that the meat used was from animals that had not been inspected. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said on Tuesday that the animals were "diseased" or otherwise "unsound." (Los Angeles Times)

5

**Beating leukemia.** A new cancer treatment is being hailed as a possible new approach to cancer therapy. The treatment uses the patient's own immune system by genetically engineering the T cells to aim to destroy the cancerous cells. The treatment has been found to destroy leukemia in 88 percent of adults, according to the new report, and out of 16 patients involved in the study, 14 went into complete remission. Talk about results. (CNN)

6

**Women in film.** The Women's Media Center revealed in its annual report a depressing statistic: Out of the top 100 grossing films, women only comprised 28.4 percent of speaking roles. Moreover, women were reported to be three times as likely to appear naked in a movie than a man. So much for progress, right? (TIME)

7

**Victim blaming.** Michael Dunn, the man who recently fired on a car filled with unarmed teenagers and killed a 17-year-old due to the teens' loud music, believes he is the victim in the situation. In recorded jailhouse calls, Dunn claims, "I'm the [expletive] victim here. I was the one who was victimized." He then chuckled and added that he was also the "victor." Dunn will face 60 years in prison on attempted murder charges. Prosecutors are planning to retry Dunn on a first-degree murder charge. (ABC News)

8

**Rejected by tigers.** Yang Jinhai, a 27-year-old Chinese man, climbed into a Bengal tiger enclosure at the Chengdu Zoo hoping to be eaten by the animals. He spent 20 minutes taunting the tigers to no avail. "I asked them to bite me and let them eat my meat, and so I did not fight back," he said. He was rescued with only minor wounds and is now being treated for depression. (The Telegraph)

9

**Snowden in Scotland?** Edward Snowden will join the proud ranks of those who have been rectors at Scotland's Glasgow University. On Tuesday, Snowden was elected to the post of student rector at the university, making him the representative of the students. His duties include bringing the concerns of the students to university officials' attention. We're guessing he'll be working remotely, considering that whole Russian asylum thing. (BBC)

10

**Royal vs. rural.** A clash between middle-class citizens and royalists against poor, rural citizens in Thailand has escalated recently, resulting in the deaths of three people in Bangkok. Those dead are one police officer and two protesters. Another 60 people have been injured in the clashes. (Reuters)

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# Community

February 21, 2014 • Editor, Kelly Mainor

W H A T ' S

H A P P E N I N G

**Friday, February 21**

8 p.m. Public observatory night (Herty Hall 405)

**Saturday, February 22**

11 a.m. Dance Marathon (Wellness Center)

**Sunday, February 23**

1 p.m. GC baseball vs. Flagler (John Kurtz Field)

**Tuesday, February 25**

7:30 p.m. Guest artist series: Swing Division - Jazz Septet (Max Noah Recital Hall)

**Wednesday, February 26**

Noon LinkedIn workshop (113 Chappell Hall)

Noon Times Talk (Library 2nd floor)

4 p.m. GC softball vs. Fort Valley State (West Campus)

7:30 p.m. GC men's basketball vs. Lander (Centennial Center)

8 p.m. Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka (Russell Auditorium)

**Thursday, February 27**

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. GC Student Philanthropy Day (The Fountain)

8 p.m. Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka (Russell Auditorium)

**NOTE: If you would like to see any events on the calendar, please send them to [colonnadenews@gcsu.edu](mailto:colonnadenews@gcsu.edu).**

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

**Tune in to [gcsunade.com/](http://gcsunade.com/) podcasts for more Public Safety Reports.**

### 1 BUSTED AND BURNT

**Jan. 19, 3 a.m.** Officer McKinney was in Foundation Hall and noticed smoke coming from a dorm room. He went to make sure everything was okay and found underage students and their guests drinking. The smoke was coming from burnt food left in a microwave. The students were sent to the student judicial review board.\*

### 2 LUCKY LIBERTY

**Feb 2, 10:51 p.m.** Officer Kennedy stopped a blue Jeep Liberty on Hancock street for driving without headlights. The driver and the passenger allegedly smelled of alcohol. The driver registered a .007, and the passenger registered a .08. The case was sent to the Student Judicial Review Board, and no further action was taken.\*

### 3 THE SCARY SIDE OF TEXTING

**Feb. 5, 1:52 p.m.** A female student went to GC Department of Public Safety about a man she said was sending her harassing text messages. She said he lives in North Carolina and that this had been going on for two months. She also stated she asked him repeatedly to stop sending her messages and to stop the sexual harassing. Officer Miller contacted the man who was allegedly sending the unwanted messages and told him to stop.

### 4 LOOSE POCKETS

**Feb 5, 8:47 p.m.** While working a basketball game, Officer McKinley was approached by a female student who said her wallet had been stolen from her purse. Her wallet contained her drivers license, Bobcat Card, debit cards and \$50 cash. This case was turned over to investigators.\*

### 5 COME ON IN, THE WATER'S NICE

**Feb. 6, 1:56 p.m.** One of GC's presidential candidates reported that campaign yard signs had been thrown into the reflection pool. The candidate also stated that another candidate's yard signs had been tossed into the pool as well. The case was turned over to investigators.

### 6 WAS IT EVER REALLY A QUESTION?

**Feb. 8, 1:06 a.m.** A girl was found by a community adviser in Foundation Hall. She was sitting on the floor in her dorm room spitting into a trashcan. After arriving on the scene, Sgt. Smith asked her what was wrong, and she said, "I am not going to lie. I am under 18, and I have had too much to drink." She then admitted to taking several shots of vodka. The girl was arrested and taken to jail for underage drinking.



\*Incident does not appear on map

Reports obtained from GC Public Safety

### 7 STEP ON IT

**Feb. 8, 10:11 a.m.** Officer McKinley responded to a call about the shattered windshield of a Honda Civic parked in the Adams Hall gravel lot. McKinley noticed what appeared to be several muddy footprints on the hood of the vehicle. The owner of the Civic said her car had been parked in the lot for less than 24 hours. The case was turned over to investigators.



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# Opinion

## Our Voice

### Campus ban on use of tobacco still undecided

As children, many of us always imagined being "cool," like the big kids around the block. In order to fit in, some of us smoked candy cigarettes and sometimes went as far as Smarties. However, as adults – in the context of age – we are allowed to decide if the theory of a child is true or not. At 18, according to United States law, we are legally allowed to use all tobacco products. We can choose to smoke real cigarettes or other tobacco products, or we can choose to stick with our candy.

*...if they can take away students' rights to smoke, what's next?*

Recently, it has come to light that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the governing body for all Georgia universities and colleges, is considering a new policy that would ban all tobacco products from campuses across Georgia. If you remember, GC Communications sent out a 10-question survey asking about tobacco usage and for opinions on the potential ban.

The results were split pretty much down the middle for whether GC, as a campus, was in favor or not in favor of the ban.

And the question behind this split is: Should we really have the ban? Is this new rule even enforceable, or will it become like our "designated smoking shelters," which no one pays attention to? The new policy would make using tobacco on campus a violation of the GC Honor Code as punishable by the Student Judicial Board.

This new policy rides on the same thing that makes GC's current smoking ban not work: self-policing. The people of GC are expected to report violations when they see them occurring, and besides the fact that this just plain won't work, as evidenced by the smoking ban (or the lack thereof), it begs the question of what kind of ethos this encourages.

Should we all be expected to run and tell on our peers when we see them taking a smoke break outside the LITC? And how do we prove that it even happened? Are we expected to surreptitiously photograph the smokers with our smartphones? Maybe we could even set it up to where we Snapchat them to the USG, but only if they promise not to screenshot them.

And what about students in on-campus housing? Can an 18-year-old not exercise their right to chew or dip in the privacy of their living space? Really? The undertones of infringement on personal liberties seem pretty obvious here.

We don't want to be too quick to blow the whistle, but this ban seems to give a power to the USG that we, as a bastion of the First Amendment, don't quite want to hand over. The logic of course being, if they can take away students' rights to smoke, what's next?

## Georgia snow day: dress for summer



by: William Detjen

### REAL TALK WITH CONSTANTINA

CONSTANTINA KOKENES  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Brevity: It's something I lack. It's one of the hardest things to do for someone who is as long-winded as me. Just thinking about it is making me panic...I can feel my heart pounding; my palms are getting sweaty. I can taste the vomit coming up my throat.

I feel trapped inside this

small text box that can barely hold 119 words.

What do I do? How do I get out of here? My point can't be made in such a small space - there's no possible way. My opinions will die in this tiny text box. No one will know what I have to say.

It's getting smaller now. The end is almost near. It's almost time. Someone...help...m —

## Letter to the Editor

### Response to Administration's non-response

To the Georgia College Administration and others associated with Commencement,

I recently read an "Our Voice" article in The Colonnade that really got my blood boiling. It was about graduation and how even after last year's disaster, you haven't learned anything. The graduates of 2013 had to endure a shortened, rain-soaked event that did not give them the credit that was due for all their hard work. As a 2014 graduate, I really hope that if the weather forecast shows rain on the day of graduation, you will use your brains and move graduation inside to the Centennial Center.

You continue to use the "it's tradition" excuse for what happened last year and to continue having graduation on Front Campus this year. However, as a student who has had many family members graduate from this college, I can tell you that it has not been a "tradition" for very long. My father's and all of my aunt's undergraduate commencement ceremonies occurred in the Centennial Center. It wasn't until my father received his Master's from here in the early 2000s that commencement was on Front Campus.

I (as well as many of my classmates) have spent the last few years working hard to earn our degrees. We want to be able to celebrate with our friends and families on our accomplishments. Our families have cheered us on these last few years as we have struggled and overcome many challenges. Why should they have to endure rain, wet seats and a "sea of umbrellas" that do not allow them to watch us receive our diplomas?

Why can't you use the Three R's (Reason, Respect and Responsibility) you have wanted us to learn?

Sincerely,  
Maggie Finch  
Senior sociology

## Letter to the Editor

### LGBT Program Coordinator responds to tweet

Two weeks ago, a tweet containing the homophobic slur f\*\*got, directly mentioning Georgia College as its target, was sent out before GC's potential closing due to inclement weather. Although it may have slipped under the radar and not have garnered much response, this incident deserved campus attention for several reasons.

It is my understanding that the image was tweeted once and then retweeted three times and favorited 12 times. Although some may have shared followers, when calculated, the tweet was potentially seen by more than 1,200 people. The fact that there was so little response should be newsworthy in itself. Although some may consider the tweet a harmless, thoughtless act, to others it is a slap in the face to the LGBT community. Lack of attention is dismissive of many painful, personal experiences as well as the violent history associated with the word f\*\*got. After the incident, there was a large group of us who were sick to our stomachs, couldn't eat nor sleep for the time being because of the thoughtless reminder of every time we've been called a derogatory name, condemned to hell or been a casualty of someone's misguided attempt to be funny. As an apathetic response followed, it was further painful to be reminded of the times when no one stood up for us.

I do not believe that the students involved are individually hateful or homophobic. But the casual and prolific manner in which a homophobic slur can be distributed warrants attention and discussion. If the editorial team did not see any reason to pursue a story about this incident, then I'm forced to question what kind of homophobic/transphobic occurrence needs to take place for there to be a story. And how does what we write about and don't write about reflect our values, priorities and conscientiousness?

This was an opportunity to set a precedent for this type of behaviour; to take a stance that hateful, oppressive language is absolutely unacceptable. I am honored to see a response from the Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students. I am disappointed there was not a stronger student response. Although many reactions and discussions were present among the students in PRIDE Alliance, I feel there should have been more of a widespread conversation.

It is important that all of us examine our homophobic/transphobic attitudes and behaviours, and the environments we create that make these actions permissible. As trivial as this tweet may seem, if we let incidents like these fly under the radar, then the potential for more hurtful and violent actions only increases.

This is not about monitoring all offensive language on the Internet but speaking up when you see it, especially if it is both coming from a representative from your university and directed at your university.

I hope the campus will still see this as an opportunity to examine how homophobia/transphobia is present on campus and in ourselves as individuals, discuss oppressive language in social media and move toward a more mindful and accepting environment.

With concern and humility,  
Grace Nichols  
LGBT Program Coordinator

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Colonnade encourages readers to express their views and opinions by sending letters to the editor at: CBX 2442; Milledgeville, GA 31061 or by e-mail at [colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu](mailto:colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu). Readers can also log onto GCSUnade.com and post comments on articles to voice opinions.

- names
  - address/ e-mail address
  - telephone number
  - year of study
  - major
- Only your name, year of study and major will be printed.
- Unsigned letters will not be printed. Names will be withheld only under very unusual circumstances.
  - Letters may be condensed.
  - All letters will be edited for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.
  - All letters become the property of The Colonnade and cannot be returned.
  - We are not able to acknowledge their receipt or disposition.

*Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor-in-chief.*

## THE LITTER Box

I just wanna eat pieeeeeeee

Dear Econ Kid,  
You voted for Romney, I don't trust your economic opinions.

Whoever wrote the lyrics to a Phoebe Buffay song on the sidewalk, I want to meet you and assuming I can sell a kidney for a ring, marry you.

People wonder why our school has a reputation for being super white and conservative. Can I please direct you to the crochet match happening on front campus?

Dear Econ Kid,  
You were quiet and you looked nice today.  
No complaints.

Text your message to  
(708) 949-NADE / 6233

Leave your message at  
[Twitter.com/GCSUnade](http://Twitter.com/GCSUnade)  
Like us on Facebook and send us a message

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### CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 14 issue, in the article, "A Far, Far, Better Thing I Do," Bob Mercer's wife is misnamed. Mercer's wife's name is Joyce Mills Mercer.

If you feel anything we've printed or posted online has been reported in error, please send an email to [Colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu](mailto:Colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu).

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# Leisure

February 21, 2014 • Editor, Lauren Corcino

## CONQUER AND DEFEAT YOUR MIDTERM MADNESS

With midterm week approaching, learn how to manage your stress level and workload with these tips



### BEST STUDY SPOTS IN MILLEDGEVILLE

**1** **441 SPOTS**  
Kroger, Chick-fil-A, Starbucks

**2** **DOWNTOWN SPOTS**  
McDonald's, Blackbird Coffee, public library

**3** **ON CAMPUS SPOTS**  
Einstein Bros Bagels, Atkinson Hall, residence hall study rooms

Compiled by  
Kelly Mainor  
Senior Reporter



MARY  
VINSON  
MEMORIAL  
LIBRARY

ASHLEY MILLER  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

It's a fact: Midterms are coming. Having a midterm in February doesn't feel fair — after all it's only the second month of the semester — but it is quickly approaching. The week of midterms can be incredibly stressful, but you don't have to let it beat you.

For cramming study sessions, take these tips into consideration to keep yourself motivated.

Take a break to clean your room. Messy studying conditions can be distracting and force you to spend more time looking for the materials you may need. Take a 10-15 minute pause in your studying to clean your desk, make your bed, vacuum or accomplish a task that you have been putting off. This will give you a mental rest and give you some exercise while still being productive.

"I will work on something for 30 minutes and then take a break, then I will study again for another 30 minutes so it's not too stressful," Suzy McEver, senior community health major, said.

If you're feeling overwhelmed, then stop to have a laugh. Indulge in your favorite distraction, but give yourself a time limit and stick to it. Watch a couple of funny Vines, scroll through your favorite celebrities' Tumblr tags, quiz yourself on BuzzFeed or look up your ex-girlfriend or boyfriend on Facebook and find all the ways you're better off without them.

Have a three-minute dance to your favorite upbeat song can put you in a great mood. Listen to songs like "Eye of the Tiger" or "We Are the Champions" to give you the motivation to tackle tough projects.

For week-long stress beating strategies, try

"I make sure to spend time outside every day and make sure to do something active."

**Mara Wiseman,**  
sophomore pre-nursing major

these:

The Seattle Times reported in 2011 that spending time with animals can provide great stress relief for both animals and people. If you don't have a pet, grab a friend's or go to Petsense and play with the cats up for adoption.

Exercise is another option for stress relief. Go outside and take a walk or attend a Zumba class. Consider activities that will get your blood pumping and keep you awake for the tasks left on your to-do list.

"I make sure to spend time outside every day and make sure to do something active," Mara Wiseman, sophomore pre-nursing major, said.

Make sure to get plenty of sleep during the week. The Huffington Post reported in 2013 that a 20-30 minute nap is recommended by experts for people who have not slept much the night before.

After you're finished studying for the day, always remember to decompress. Grace Forbes, junior mass communication major, makes sure to always treat herself after she's studied hard.

"After I feel like I've studied enough for one day, I will light some candles and watch Netflix," Forbes said. "If you don't, you can get really stressed and then get really sick and then you'll be sick during midterms. I've done it."

## MIDTERM MUNCHIES

No-bake energy bites: an easy-to-make snack to help power through the midterm exhaustion

### INGREDIENTS

1 cup rolled oats	½ cup raisins
1 cup coconut flakes	½ cup peanut butter
½ cup ground flaxseed	½ cup honey
½ cup mini chocolate chips	1 tsp vanilla extract

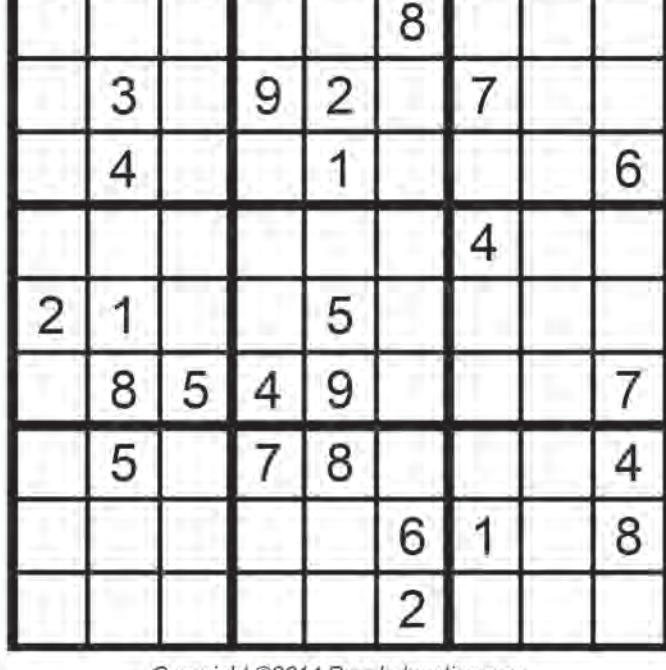
### INSTRUCTIONS

- In a medium bowl, whisk peanut butter, honey and vanilla until it reaches a smooth consistency. In a small bowl, combine dry ingredients of oatmeal, coconut flakes, flax seed, chocolate chips and raisins.
- Fold the oatmeal mixture into the larger bowl with a spatula until thoroughly combined. Place mix in the refrigerator to chill for half an hour.
- Once chilled, roll into balls and enjoy. Store in an air-tight container and keep refrigerated for up to one week.

### CROSSWORD



### SUDOKU



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### SOLUTIONS FROM 2/14/14



# TENT CITY TAKE OVER

Campus organizations unite in an afternoon of music and fun

SAMANTHA BLANKENSHIP  
SENIOR REPORTER

Tent City, or the biggest tailgate party known to Georgia College, hosts hordes of students plus a band or two every year before the Homecoming game and the unveiling of Mr. and Ms. GC.

In some minds, the name Tent City may conjure images of scenes from Arabian Nights. Although not quite as exotic, GC's blowout tailgate is something more akin to a modern-day music festival.

A slew of bands pumped loud music through the courtyard as the smells of burgers and hot dogs pour out from the grill. A large group of young people socialized, drank and played cornhole.

Organizations from across GC gathered around the clock tower and set up their tents with mounds of food and colorful decorations. Banners hung from tents, advertising groups and Homecoming candidates.

Girls in sweaters and guys T-shirts caravaned from tent to tent with solo cups in hand and dogs trailing behind them. Students, employees and alumni went all out with decorations, food, beverages and music.

However, as with most everything in life, some tents were more successful than others.

#### The Sororities

The Greek girls took the cake in the decorating department. There wasn't a mismatched flower, banner or balloon within 30 feet of these girls' tents. Although all of their tents were well-organized, there wasn't

any significant standout in the group.

Alpha Delta Pi's tent sported purple and blue balloons around the perimeter. It upped the sophistication with an eating area separated from their buffet by a draped curtain. The Zeta Tau Alpha tent stood out from the crowd with its bright colors: neon coral and light blue. Kappa Delta lined its tent with a string of small triangle banners decorated with multi-colored chevron stripes.

For all the work they put into decorating them, most of the sorority tents were deserted throughout the day.

#### The Fraternities

The Fraternity tents stayed consistently busy throughout the day. Brothers manned their tents, offering food and drinks to anyone who walked in. The Greek guys weren't quite as into the decorating as their female counterparts. Most of the fraternity tents were plain with only a sheet sign blowing in the wind. And, of course, they had tables to bear their large quantity of booze and burgers.

The most notable exception to this, however, was the Theta Chi tent. These gentlemen put their apparent love of the outdoors on display with a Cliff Bar-inspired sheet sign and full-sized canoe, filled to the gunwale with iced beer. Brothers stood behind the bar, serving up mimosas until the liquor ran out.

#### Student Organizations

Outside of the Greek circle, other student groups represented at Tent City included the Campus Activities

*Tent city page 8*



ALEX CAFFERY / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



BECKY SLACK / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

From left to right, Dan Auerbach, Martin Gueorguiev, David Johnson and (behind) Gregory Peptone perform in a piano quartet at the faculty chamber recital in the Max Noah Recital Hall. Gueorguiev was a visiting musician from the Atlanta Music Academy.

# Striking the right balance

AMANDA MORRIS  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

As the last few seats were filled in a dimly-lit Max Noah Recital Hall, the atmosphere began buzzing with excitement. Georgia College students and Milledgeville residents were left in awe as "Synergy: Striking the Right Balance" premiered Feb. 17. The performance included three GC faculty members as well as a guest musician from the Atlanta Music Academy.

Gregory Peptone, professor and director of keyboard activities, began the show with a moving piano performance that included pieces from Mozart, Beethoven and Franz Schubert.

Each note played would vary between soft and gentle to deep and powerful.

"I've seen [Peptone] play in class, but it's interesting to see a teacher in real life performing," said Camille Clause-Pujo, a sophomore political science major.

Some of the students present may not have been the biggest classical music fans, but the talent could not go unnoticed.

"Classical music just isn't really my thing but he [Peptone] does perform incredibly well," said Auton Waern, a freshman business management major.

One of the solo piano pieces were completed, a violin, viola, cello and

piano quartet entered on stage. The intensity of the performance increased once they began the Robert Schumann pieces. As the music swelled so did the physical movements of the performers as they briefly rose from their seats during particularly powerful parts.

"The best way to make music is to collaborate," David Johnson, an assistant professor of music for GC and the violist, said. "There are some people that only do things by themselves but then you lose out on the excitement of making music with others."

*Quartet page 8*

# Ditching your comfort zone

'The Vagina Monologues' uses shock to get across an important message

SARAH K. WILSON  
COLUMNIST

So I attended Georgia College's performance of "The Vagina Monologues," and I left feeling what many women have reported feeling upon leaving the event: empowered, equal and maybe even a little mystical.

Since its emergence into the feminist theater in 1996, Eve Ensler's episodic play has inspired thousands to reconsider what it is to be a female in the modern age. The show is comprised of a series of short monologues from a number of different actresses. The vignettes touch on everything from masturbation to rape with tones ranging from uproariously funny to downright disturbing.

The point is to force people out of their comfort zones.

But why? Any marketing major would tell you that making your audience uncomfortable is bound to make sure they are cautious to return. But "The Vagina Monologues," having run for over a decade (and in so doing proving itself to be spectacularly popular), has this theory turned upside down.

In reality, the show wants its audience to squirm as a means of opening their eyes to the bigger picture: women the world over experience a spectrum of human encounters, be it lovemaking or rape, simply because of what's between

"It's important to talk about women's [own sexual experiences], especially if you're someone who claims to be forward thinking."

Rachel Estridge,  
creative writing major

their legs. They are shamed for it, lusted after for it and judged on a global scale for it.

It's time to stop the ignorance, end the shame and accept the vagina for what it is: a crazy-awesome, life-giving, eternally-feminine organ.

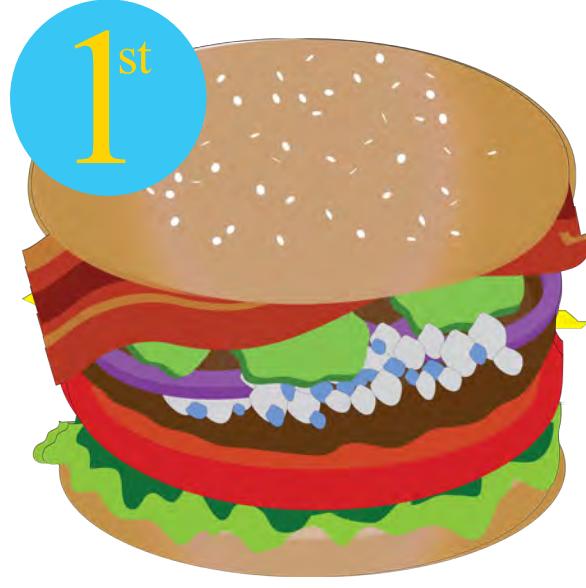
And in attending GC's performance, it was obvious the show had a lot of supporters. Faculty, staff and students alike attended "The Vagina Monologues" over the three days it was performed, yet the majority of attendees seemed to be women.

It made me wonder: Do most men opt out of attending "The Vagina Monologues" because they can't bear to hear about vaginas for an hour? But if that were the case, then why do these same men think

*Vagina page 8*

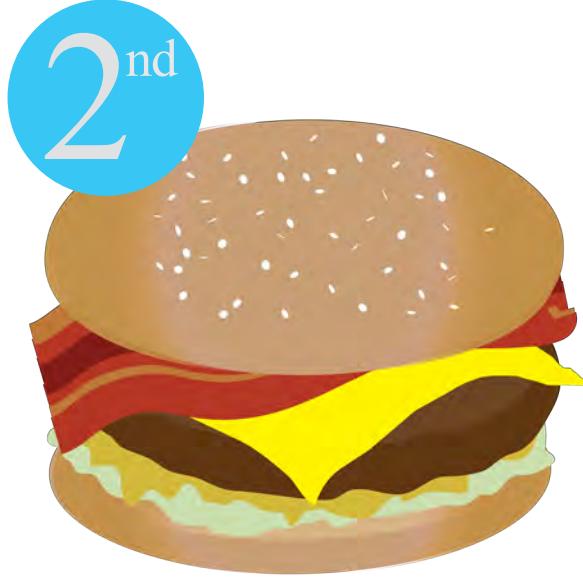
# Burgers of the 'Ville

The Colonnade's A&E editor Scott Carranza dug into the best burgers Milledgeville has to offer



Pickle Barrel's  
**Bacon & Bleu**

Very few burgers have left me savoring every bite, and even fewer have created a perfect harmony of flavors for my palette, but Pickle Barrel's Bacon & Bleu burger may become my newest comfort food. Many bleu cheese burgers have either been very underwhelming or completely sharp and pungent; it's a challenging ingredient to pull off. But this burger was perfect. The cheese complimented the crisp, applewood bacon perfectly. The burger patty itself was cooked to a pink medium, and I felt that out of the three burgers, the patty from Pickle Barrel had the most flavor on its own. So definitely try this one out if you want, what I consider, to be the best burger I've had in Milledgeville.



Buffington's  
**Skillet Burger**

I paired this burger with a draft of Angry Orchard and felt like I was having breakfast for lunch. The Skillet Burger's simple ingredients gave this burger a smooth and savory taste that you won't find in many burgers around town. The combination of bacon, cheese, hamburger meat and fried egg created a protein-heavy dish, and that may be my only complaint. The burger did feel a bit weighty in my stomach afterwards, but it sure was worth it. The fried egg was cooked a to a perfect "over medium" style and just enough yolk came dribbling out to compliment the meat. Buffington's is well known for its extensive burger list, and this example definitely sets the bar. Pair this with fried pickles, and you're good to go!



Velvet Elvis's  
**Jalapeño Cheddar**

I'm hispanic, and I like jalapeños. So I am constantly looking for new ways this little pepper can add some spice to my life. So a burger smothered in jalapeños and cheddar cheese is kinda hard for me to say no to. But alas, I wasn't all too impressed. The first drawback was receiving a well-done burger when I asked for medium. Even so, I was thankful for the gratuitous amount of grilled jalapeños. It added a well-deserved kick to the burger, but I felt that's all the dish had going for it. The patty wasn't seasoned to my liking, and the cheddar could have been much more sharp. All in all, still great for The Velvet Elvis, but for the money I spent, I would probably just stick with another joint.

## A fleeting moment

**FRESH FACES** English professor and poet speaks about poetry in a modern age filled with high-speed information

SCOTT CARRANZA  
SENIOR REPORTER

Laura Newbern had been making music since the age of 9. Not the kind where chords, melodies and arpeggios could be heard, but the kind that was envisioned and read aloud. With the paper as her instrument and the words as her lyrics, Newbern found poetry to be an expression of who she was. Her life crescendoed into a story she never expected, and her prose blossomed into her passion.

Yet her passion has entered an age of instant transmissions, short attention spans and blinding speed. For Newbern, inspiring poetry students to find their voices in a world of instant gratification seems daunting, but she feels it is her place in life, for better or for worse.

### A Young Poet

Her love for writing was expressed in verse during her early years of an all-girls Catholic school in Washington D.C.

"I was in a school that really encouraged a bunch of little girls to write stuff," Newbern said. "I had a lot of music in my head. Both of my parents are wonderful musicians, so that was my way of making music."

She grew up wanting to see the world. The restless wanderlust perhaps stemming from being born abroad. This feeling continued into her college life, so she packed her bags and set her sights on New York City to study at Columbia University.

"I was kind of wayward, a little lost," she said. "I was really excited about being in New York City, and I decided to major in something nobody expected me to major in."

That major was political science. Writing poetry equipped Newbern with exceptional language skills, and

she thought becoming a diplomat would be a nice fit for her. Even so, poetry still sprouted up inside her. New York City was full of coffee-shop poetry readings and new talent waiting to be uncovered.

Newbern decided formal training was a must. During her time at Columbia, she developed skills in reading poetry critically. She enrolled in upper-level English courses to sharpen her prose and was fond of a French literature class. She studied surrealist poets and typed all of her poetry on a typewriter, a scene buried in the 1940s.

### A Young Society

All of the senses are being stimulated in today's society. A 2012 Pew internet survey focusing on college students says that this "always-on generation" lives in a world of "instant gratification and quick fixes" which, as most know, leads to saturation of the senses. Yet, when approached by a poem, Newbern thinks many of them tend to recoil at the thought of slowing down; taking time to digest a piece of writing that was not designed for rapid consumption.

"We live in a world of instant gratification and having things delivered to us at high speed," Newbern said. "Our technology is so great in so many ways, but it is starting to shape us rather than us shaping it. It is making everybody so high-speed."

Poetry requires the reader to slow down. Most poems are mere translations of a single moment, appealing to all the senses in a metaphysical way. Newbern's poetry glides across the page and sets the reader in a beautiful world of color and wonder, yet the poem lasts no longer than several seconds.

In a moment, the beauty of a poem comes and goes. Some choose to soak in the verse, others to leave it behind. A society of commonality does not

know how to handle the art form very well.

"Unless the meaning of the poem is being beamed directly to my retinas, I am not interested," senior physics major Eric Frechette said.

These are some of the phrases you hear thrown around when poetry is mentioned, but not everyone feels this way. The world is full of new poets and readers of poetry. This art-form means the world to some.

"Poetry is like trying to read the resonance between words rather than words themselves," senior English major Michael Russell said. "It is where intuition meets concrete symbols. Poetry, like any art, wants to communicate a feeling, and I think poetry grants you the most complete freedom of expression."

This freedom does make it a challenge to interpret that feeling, in some cases.

"A common point of view of poetry," Newbern said, "especially in this country, is 'I'm not going to read poetry because I'm not going to get it.' Poetry does require [the] reader to sit up and meet it halfway."

### A Young Professor

Poetry is not dying; it's never been dead. In this modern age, poetry has never been so common, and the use of the Internet creates a domain where new, up-and-coming poets can share their works and self-publish their pieces.

"There are more and more people writing [poetry]," Newbern said. "Whether there are more people reading it is another question. Poetry used to be published in the newspaper, [but] we are in a different time when it comes to poetry."

The place of the modern poet is obscure. For Newbern, teaching poetry is where she finds herself. Her experience in reading and writing



SPECIAL TO THE COLONNADE

the artform is what cultivates a beautiful relationship with her students.

"She's the teacher who is going to make you think about what poetry is," senior English major Benton Meadows said. "And it's really good to have someone shake up everything you believe, especially when you're trying to make something and make it relevant."

Newbern's passion is an outward expression of who she is. It has taught

her and molded her into a voice for the art. Much like her parents, Newbern will continue to create music. She finds herself again and again, something many in our generation miss.

"I write it [poetry] because I think it's what I'm best at doing," she said. "When I am doing it, I know that I am my best self ... I write to find out what I feel and to make music with my voice."

we understand what it is to be a woman in today's world. This means hearing the good stuff – yes, it is possible for a woman to have an orgasm(!) – and also the bad. We must realize that rape is still horrifyingly apparent, not only in the form of random attacks but also utilized as a weapon of war. We must acknowledge that not only does the clitoris have about 4,000 more nerve endings than the tip of a penis, but that cutting off the clitoris from young girls remains prevalent in some 27 countries.

"The Vagina Monologues" celebrates and cries out for the respect of vaginas, i.e. women, everywhere. Thinking you're an open-minded, forward-thinking person of the 21st century is one thing, but claiming that while refusing to sit through a show detailing the empowerment of women is hypocritical. Plain and simple.

If it takes discomfort to open the world's eyes, then so be it.

## Tent city

Continued from page 7...

Board, Thunder Crew, the Environmental Science Club and non-panhellenic sororities and fraternities. Most of these organizations provided tents for their members to hang out, enjoy food and play cornhole.

Some, like Thunder Crew, passed out food for students. CAB showcased its many events by hanging its event T-shirts from the top of the tent.

The constant stream of bands performing under the clock tower meant that the majority of students didn't linger too long under the tents. Students lounged in the sun or stood in front of the bands, enjoying their food and drinks as they rocked out with the bands.

As always Tent City proved to be a highlight of Homecoming week, especially with the rescheduling of the GC Jamfest.

## Quartet

Continued from page 7...

Although this incredible performance dazzled the audience, the four performers only needed three rehearsals to syncopate.

"I feel that it went really well considering we only had three rehearsals," Dan Auerbach, an associate professor of music for GC and the violinist, said. "We're all really busy and don't have much time to rehearse, so we did what we could in terms of time and working on our own."

The visiting musician, Martin Gueorguiev of the Atlanta Music Academy and the cellist performed on GC's campus during 2012 with the same three GC musicians that he shares both a musical partnership and friendship with.

"We had a good time and really enjoyed it and whenever they invite me I'm always happy to come back," Gueorguiev said.

## Vagina

Continued from page 7...

about sex countless hours of the day?

Rachel Estridge, a senior creative writing major, believes that it's the discomfort brought on by women talking about their vaginas that turns many men away.

"Even progressive, open-minded men will say, 'Nah, that's not for me,'" she said. "But that is so frustrating. It's important to talk about women's [own sexual experiences], especially if you're someone who claims to be forward-thinking."

Estridge went so far as to claim she would never date a man who claimed to be open-minded but refused to attend an event like "The Vagina Monologues." And really, I can't help but agree with her.

If we as a modern society are ever to reach total equality of the sexes, then it is crucial

# Alumni couple returns to the Max Noah stage

*'Valentine's Day Rendezvous' breathes new life into romantically-themed songs and ensembles*

ANDIE LEEDS  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

About seven years ago, Georgia College students Jeremy Skidmore and Mary-Katherine Shaap met within the sweet sounds of the Max Noah Singers. "Since music be the food of love," Skidmore and Shaap married each other and began a life filled with song. The alumni couple highlighted the night at the annual performance of "Valentine's Day Rendezvous" on Feb. 15.

With a mixture of solos, duets, small ensemble and choral songs, The Max Noah Singers put on a show that featured student conductors, Bradley Sowell and Devon Kitchens, as well as student coaches, Brianna Riley, Caroline Thomas and Mitchell Moore.

The married, alumni couple, Jeremy and Mary-Katherine Skidmore, were the guest performance of the evening, singing a duet from the Broadway play "Wicked." Max Noah Singers have been working on their pieces since the beginning of the semester, practicing a minimum of three days each week as well as running the ensemble numbers during their class times.

"It's fun to get the practice in," Sowell said. "You have this vision in your head of what you want, and then when it's actually [on stage] it's just a really rewarding experience."

Magnolia Ballroom was packed full of elegant circular tables, each draped in table cloths and decorated with a single candle to create a romantic atmosphere. The performance began with the stage illuminated in lavender and pink. Max Noah Singers stood in an arch and with a few waves of Sowell's hands, began their first song.

Jennifer Flory, director of choral activities, addressed the crowd and introduced the singers.

"The reason I started [Valentine's Day Rendezvous] back in 2007 was as a fundraiser to raise money for our Max Noah's tour," Flory said. "A second reason was to give the students an outlet for pop-type songs that they don't have within the other ensembles. It's a chance for the students to do solos or duets that they choose, and they get to shine and be in the spotlight."

**It's fun to get the practice in. You have this vision in your head of what you want, and then when it's actually [on stage], it's just a really rewarding experience."**

**Bradley Sowell,  
music education major**

Flory is also responsible for coaching the group, The Cat's Meow – an a cappella group made up of eight students, six music majors, a history major and an art major, who all auditioned for their spots. The group, commissioned by GC President Steve Dorman, is in its second semester and entertained the concert audience with a beautiful, unaccompanied rendition of "Can You Feel The Love Tonight?" from "The Lion King."

"I look for a beautiful voice in terms of the audition," Flory said as she described how she auditions student's for any choral group. "I check their range, I like for people to have a relatively large range, and then I have them sing a solo where I look for their expression of the words and music and also their ability to stay on pitch and being able to work with an accompanist."

The performers sang to a room packed full of alumni and students; every chair was taken and the ballroom walls were lined with audience members.

"The music department is very accepting and open, and we love for the community to come to all of these things just to hear beautiful music," Sowell said. "We work so hard for it and we love to share all kinds of music with the audience and the students of all majors."

This is the eighth year that the Max Noah Singers have hosted "Valentine's Day Rendezvous" for the community. Flory described the event as "something that people get to look forward to."

# SPOTLIGHT

by Sophie Goodman

*Gina Webber, newly elected SGA Vice President, discloses her plans for the future*

**Q: What are your future plans?**

**A:** I want to make sure it's a diverse senate body. This year it's been a lot more diverse than it has been in previous years. So that's my first main thing. Then my other main thing is making sure all our committee work is reflecting what students want. I want to make sure we get a lot of student opinion and are actually working on things that they care about.

**Q: What would you like to see more of on campus?**

**A:** I really would like to see more visibility of all campus clubs. For example, I've been to Pride Alliance a few times, and I want to make sure those clubs who might not be as visible on campus are aware that SGA can help them, allocate money and stuff like that. Same thing with the whole diversity thing. Just making sure that all RSOs know what's going on, not just a select few.

**Q: Why do you place such an emphasis on diversity?**

**A:** Well, I'm gay myself – I identify as a lesbian. I came out a few years ago, and that's one of the reasons I picked Georgia College. I knew that there was a Pride Alliance here. What we're trying to do, at least with LGBT students, is raise an awareness of our presence on campus. One of the big things diversifying the student body is not only making a safe student body where all students can feel like they're welcomed. I always say, "It all goes back to education." Growing up you have your family dynamic, and you have your school but more in the sense of making education not something that's a privilege but a right and that



SOPHIE GOODMAN / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

goes back to the whole diversity thing. I would say definitely making need based financial aid is a huge thing for me. I see that everyday when I'm on campus. The thing that I find troubling is it's not a GC issue, it's a cultural issue. That's what I want to invest my life's work in – making sure that everyone has access to an affordable education.

**Q: Why did you decide to run for SGA?**

**A:** I joined SGA because I wanted to have an impact on the school. For the first two years, I didn't really know what SGA was about. With SGA, I finally found that niche of kids who are so dedicated to telling people what GC is about.

# GEORGIA COLLEGE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

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- Robert K. Greenleaf, *The Servant as Leader*.



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# Sports

February 21, 2014 • Editor, Bethan Adams



ELLIE SMITH / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Top left: Junior guard Shanteona Keys goes against Columbus State's junior point guard Carrie Washington during the opening tip-off. Keys said the Bobcats let the Cougars dictate the pace of the game, which was too fast. Top right: Sophomore guard Terrell Harris attempts to make a layup but gets blocked by two CSU players. The men started strong but fell to the Cougars at the end. Despite the energetic crowd, the women lost 65-54 and the men lost 69-65. The Bobcats lost Homecoming games last year as well.

## ANOTHER HEARTBREAK

A breakdown of the women's and men's basketball homecoming games

BETHAN ADAMS AND  
HAMPTON PELTON  
SENIOR REPORTERS

### Womens

The atmosphere was surreal and the energy electric. The fans screamed until the squeaking sound of sneakers on the court were squelched by the cheering.

The men's and women's basketball teams fell against their rival, the Columbus State University Cougars, 69-65 and 65-54, in front of the largest crowd of the year.

The swirling masses of sororities and fraternities posting up in the stands, designating their sections by large, wooden Greek letters, screamed for the teams during the games. They danced, jeered, cheered, jumped, chanted, but to no avail.

"I wouldn't say it was a good offensive effort," junior guard Shanteona Keys said after the game. "We were sped up by [CSU's] intensity, I guess. We let them dictate the pace of the game, and that rushed our own shot."

The Cougars got ahead immediately, scoring 10 points within the first five minutes. Thunder Crew members hit the end of the Bobcat flag on the bleachers and shouting at the referees. The crowd contested each call made by the refs.

Keys said the refs missed a few calls, but turning the ball over the CSU was GC's ultimate problem.

"[Referees] are never going to call a perfect game, and we're never going to like their calls," she said. "I thought there were a few calls they missed on our end as far as physicality, you know, going to the

basket, people are getting pulled left and right. But I mean, that's part of the game...it's turnovers, stuff we could've controlled."

Freshman guard LaRice Walker said the beginning of the game was the worst; Keys and senior guard Brandi McKinney nodded their heads in agreement.

"We were down 1-10, and coming out of the beginning of the game we didn't match the physicality," Keys said.

Although Walker said she didn't feel like she met any personal goals during the game, she made 14 points during the game. Keys made 17 points, bumping her up to No. 6 on the GC all-time points list.

Walker and McKinney both said they had wanted to redeem themselves from the last game against CSU, at which they lost 79-55.

"Most of all, I was just wanting to go in there and fight," McKinney said. "Redeem myself from the first time we played them."

McKinney and Walker said the Homecoming game will be remembered by the small mistakes the team made.

"From the little mistakes we've made, what we could've avoided, what could've happened," McKinney said. "We're just going to have to learn from the mistakes we made in this game, and move on to the next."

### Mens

The crowd was alive and thunderous during the opening moments of the GC men's Homecoming game as the Bobcats' electric possession took control and drew first blood, falling back and withstand-

**Homecoming page 11**

## Frisbees, tutus, chocolate cake

GC hosts annual Ultimate Frisbee tournament

BETHAN ADAMS  
SENIOR REPORTER

The Georgia College Ultimate Frisbee club teams, women's Lynx Rufus, or "Rufies," and the men's Disconnected, or the "Discos," hosted an Ultimate Frisbee tournament, Flick'n Nuts, on Feb. 15 and 16.

Saturday's match wasn't too cold to bring out the crazy uniforms: tutus and overalls were worn over layers of clothes protecting players from the 12 mph wind.

"Like, seriously, [expletive] this weather," a Rufies teammate said of the bitter, cold wind that bit into bare skin.

Sunday's balmy, 60-degree weather brought out the whitey-tighties, bandana T-shirts and old-fashioned dresses for the Rufies. The Rufies said their theme was "wacky."

The current GC men's club team, Discos, and the GC women's alumni team dominated the tournament. The Discos won the tournament for the fourth year in a row. GC women's alumni joined forces with the Augusta team in order to beat Michigan and win for the ladies' division.

Founder of the Rufies, Haley Reese, was

at the tournament with the GC women's alumni team, Reese created the women's club team during her freshman year in 2006-2007, naming it Lynx Rufus after the genus species name for the North American bobcat. She graduated in 2010 with a degree in psychology.

"I put table toppers all over the cafeteria and put signs in [Arts and Sciences] and all over campus," she said. "I would stand outside with a disc and throw at people who were walking to class and say 'hey, you can catch this!'"

Reese, now a massage therapist in Atlanta, said she was proud of the current team's approach to the sport and sportsmanlike conduct.

"It's incredible [being back]," she said. "I'm extremely proud of these ladies. The things that we taught them — the spirit of the game, respecting each other, respecting opponents, cheering, being positive to each other — that's all here now and there's no one on the team now that I've ever played with, so it means the world to me to know that they're spirited."

**Ultimate page 11**



BETHAN ADAMS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The GC women's Ultimate Frisbee club huddle together for a cheer during a break in its game against Michigan State. The GC men's and women's club teams hosted a tournament Feb. 15-16.

### Upcoming Games

#### Baseball

Friday Feb. 21 vs. Flagler @ Home 1 p.m.

#### Softball

Saturday Feb. 22 @ Anderson 1 p.m.

#### Men and Women's Tennis

Saturday Feb. 22 @ Ga. Southwestern @ 1 p.m.

### Quote of the Week

"Most of all, I was just wanting to go in there and fight."

Brandi McKinney  
Senior Guard

### Notable Stat

9

The number of years that the Bobcat Ramble 5k has existed.

## The Short Stop



## 10th annual Bobcat Ramble

BETHAN ADAMS  
SENIOR REPORTER

Saturday's homecoming festivities started early with the 10th Annual Bobcat Ramble 5K and fun run on Feb. 15.

The 43-degree weather bit at bare skin, making noses run and eyes water.

There were 180 pre-registered runners, and 30-40 runners paid the \$25 to register the morning of the run. Amy Whately, associate director at the wellness center and director of the Bobcat Ramble, said registration was down this year.

"We're 130 short than last year, but there is another race in town, and they tend to have a larger and more captive audience," she said, speaking of the 5K hosted by North Ridge Christian Church that same morning.

Participants in the Ramble included a handful of GC cross-country team runners, athletic director Wendell Staton, local residents, small children and GC faculty, staff and students.

Junior biology major Paige Stanley used the Ramble as a stepping stone toward her goal of running a

half marathon.

"Running a half marathon is a New Year's resolution of mine," Stanley said before heading for the starting line.

Sophomore softball pitcher Marisa Boyette was there with a friend and said she runs a couple of days a week to stay in shape and decided to run in the Bobcat Ramble.

For sophomore theater major Sarah Harrell and her friends, the Bobcat Ramble was the beginning of a celebration.

"It's my 20th birthday," she said, grinning. She said she wasn't going to win but didn't seem too upset about it.

The 5K started in front of Parkhurst Hall and wound its way past Memory Hill Cemetery, Downtown, past Georgia Military College and then ended in the same spot it started.

Fifteen minutes before the race, a handful of students came out of their house to join the runners at the starting line, pulling on caps and ear warmers.

One student stepped out of Parkhurst five minutes before the race began. He melted into the throng of runners lined up. A few decided to

keep their own time and held their watches, waiting for the start of the race.

Three cross-country runners stretched and bounced in front of the start/finish line. They didn't seem phased by the cold in their short shorts.

At the finish line, sophomore James Ryden came in first followed by sophomore Michael Warrick and freshman Paul Orr in third. All finished in less than 17 minutes.

"Use the downhill, use the downhill!" the cross-country assistant head coach Steven Cary called to the boys as they rounded the last corner on their way back in and headed down the hill past Adams Hall.

As the very last runner came in at 53 minutes, Ramble volunteers cheered her in.

The Ramble began in 2005. In 2008, the race became a memorial to John Bruner, a GC cross-country athlete who died Aug. 4, 2007. Bruner's name was on the T-shirts this year. Its ultimate goal is to establish a scholarship for Baldwin County students wishing to attend GC.

Participants in the Bobcat Ramble take off at the beginning of the race. Cross-country runners James Ryden, Michael Warrick and Paul Orr came in first, second and third, running the 5K in under 17 minutes.

**BETHAN ADAMS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER**



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## GC Tennis wins against Erskine

SARAH DICKENS  
STAFF REPORTER

The Georgia College men's tennis team climbed to victory against the Erskine College Flying Fleets 9-0 on Feb. 15.

Next to the tennis courts, Homecoming celebrations and noises of tailgating seemed alien next to the gentle "bopping" of the tennis balls.

The match had a larger turnout than usual, according to freshman singles and doubles player Kyle Kinsler.

"Everyone was out here," Kinsler said. "We had a big crowd. Everyone was cheering, [and] we were cheering on each other. In the past games, we have been a little quiet, but in this one, we got really loud. And so, it was really great. We had a great atmosphere out here."

The men, who lost against Valdosta State University at the previous away game, sought to redeem themselves this match.

"We lost, so we had to

come back this week," sophomore singles player Yammick Hass said. "Come back to the winner streak. I think we did pretty good."

The fluctuating Milledgeville weather caused a little trouble for the team.

"We couldn't practice as much because of all the snow," Hass said. "So, we practiced [Fri., Feb. 14] for the first time this week."

Despite their struggles with practice, the men prepared by working on their rallying skills and consistency.

"We prepare for every game the exact same way," Kinsler said. "We work really hard in the beginning of the week [with] lots of fitness, lots of running and stuff, and towards the end of the week, we work more on consistency. And it seems to work out pretty well."

Overall, the men's team excelled without a single loss in the singles or doubles plays. The crowd gave its momentum a boost.

"When the more people are out here, everyone out here

plays so much better," Kinsler said.

Kinsler is satisfied with the outcome of this game.

"I'm excited," Kinsler said. "I'm so proud of all of my teammates. They all did such a good job. I didn't see anyone give up on any points. Everyone was running down on every ball, and we were all giving 100 percent out there. I was very happy with everyone out there."

The men's head coach Steve Barsby is looking forward to this season.

"I think [the future is] looking pretty good," Barsby said. "This next weekend will be a test for us against Georgia Southwestern and Columbus. If we can come out of there, I think we'll have a solid year."

Hass is certain of success, as well.

"I am very confident in our future," Hass said. "I think we are going to have a great season out here. I think 2014 is going to be great for us."

The men will take on GSW Feb. 22 and CSU Feb. 23, both away matches.

### Ultimate

*Continued from page 10...*

Reese said a men's Ultimate team existed when she came to college, but they wanted to remain an all-boy's team. Reese created the women's team, and it went on to win fifth out of 16 teams at Nationals its first year.

"GC is the only Division III school that has a women's team in the southeast US," she said. "So, we're kind of special, in that way. And the fact that it's continuing on, I'll just keep repeating that I'm proud of [the Rufies]."

Ultimate is one of the fastest growing sports in the world, but Reese and a friend single-handedly helped create a larger Ultimate culture on GC's campus.

"In the time when I was a freshmen to when I graduated, the amount of frisbees increased so much," Reese said. "So I think, we were doing good things to get the word out that Ultimate Frisbee is fun."

The teams at Flick'n Nuts represented GC Alumni, Berry College, Michigan State University, Kennesaw State, Georgia Southern and Augusta, along with the current GC Ultimate club teams.

One of the Rufies' specialties is creating creative cheers, like "We smoke them blunts the size of bats, we got 'dem gatz as long as axe. We snatch that cheese right off the trap. A Georgia College, BLAP BLAT BLAT!"

"That one's my favorite because it's the cleanest," Mary Mason Beale, a freshman Rufies player, said.

After losing to Michigan, the Rufies huddled together and rehearsed a cheer.

Junior Rufies player Katie Lulu walked over to the Michigan players who were high-fiving each other, and told them the Rufies had a cheer for them.

"Be fly, don't eat cheese fries, cause their feet fly!" the Rufies shouted in unison, drawing some laughs from Michigan and friends on the sideline.

### Homecoming

*Continued from page 10...*

ing the first wave of Cougars. The men lost 69-65.

"We didn't come out and play like we were supposed to," senior guard Royal Thomas said. "The second half was nonchalant. We can't play like that."

Both sides missed opportunities early due to stifling defenses which led to early fouls on both sides.

"We came out flat," junior guard Larrentis Thomas said. "We gave up a lot of points rebounding."

Sophomore guard Terrell Harris sunk a 3-pointer two minutes into the first half, adding to the Bobcats' early momentum.

The Bobcats kept a steady lead, but CSU's bursts of energy and speed forced GC to recover quickly in the first period.

Another 3-pointer from sophomore guard Alex Reid raised the game to a four-point margin, 18-14 Bobcats.

Columbus State grew frustrated from GC's strong pace,

its inability to recover rebounds and high rate of pos-

session from the Bobcats.

Harris found room and dunked the ball with six minutes left, giving way to a six point lead from GC, 24-18.

Sophomore guard Ryan Blumenthal found his rhythm late in the first period, punishing the Cougars in the paint and wreaking havoc outside of it with crisp passes.

A crowd-raising, 3-pointer by Reid and Thomas' agile dribbling defined the first period for the Bobcats as the half ended 38-26, a crushing 12-point lead.

Unfortunately, the Bobcats' scoring streak ended immediately in the second period.

"We should've played smarter," sophomore guard Terrell Harris said. "We fouled-out in the second half."

Columbus, who seemed to collect themselves mentally during the break, started off with a slow-grinding possession, prodding for weaknesses in GC's defense.

"We didn't come out with intensity we needed," Royal Thomas said. "They came out harder than us."

Four consecutive two-pointers from the Cougars brought the game within

reach for the visiting team, 38-32. GC, who seemed asleep at the wheel, found themselves with nearly no possession in the first five minutes.

Eventually, frustration surfaced. Physicality from GC, spanding to both sides, erupted halfway through the first period.

"We came out and had spurts," Royal Thomas said. "We can't have spurts, we have to play the whole 20 minutes."

The game changed personalities again, moving to a shootout style - seeing three to four point leads from both sides with the losing team rising to tie the game.

This near-four-minute pattern dissipated to Columbus edging out GC to a seven point lead with five minutes left, 65-58 Cougars.

GC answered, only relinquishing one point while netting seven in the last five minutes, but would go on to miss several shots, resulting in a heartbreaking loss at Homecoming, 69-65 Cougars.

"We get back to practice and we work," Royal Thomas said. "We got five, six games left. We're taking one game at a time and we'll see what happens after that."

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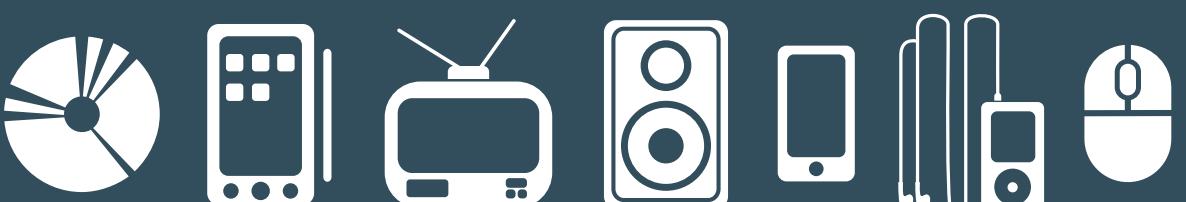
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